GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2945
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2003
CUSTODIAL DEATHS IN CENTRAL JAIL
SURESH PASI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prisoners who died in the central jails during the last three years;

(b) whether prisoners are maltreated in the central jails;

(c) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such happenings in the jails?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI)

(a): As per the available information 861, 799 and 774 prisoners died in various jails in the country during 1999, 2000 and 2001 respectively.

(b)to(d): No specific complaints of maltreatment of prisoners during the last three years have come to the notice of Government of India. `Prisons` being a State subject, the complaints as and when received against prison administration are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for appropriate action. The Central Government have been providing financial assistance to the State Governments for improving the conditions of prisons and prisoners, besides issuing advisories on various aspects of prison administration including humane treatment to the prisoners.